

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 00709 140641Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USSS-00
/052 W

-----014238 140644Z /10

O R 140623Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8704
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 0709

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, IN
SUBJECT: REPORTED ATTEMPT ON MRS. GANDHI'S LIFE

1. THE PRESS JANUARY 14 REPORTED THAT MURARI LAL BATRA, A DELHI RESIDENT WITH A SMALL BUSINESS, WAS ARRESTED WITH A LOADED PISTOL IN THE VICINITY OF A MEETING MRS. GANDHI WAS ADDRESSING IN OLD DELHI ON JANUARY 13. HE IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER AND VIOLATION OF THE ARMS ACT. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THERE ARE CONFLICTING VERSIONS OF WHAT ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE. ONE ACCOUNT HAS IT THAT BATRA WAS SEIZED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE MEETING HALL, WHILE ACCORDING TO ANOTHER, HE WAS NABBED WHILE TAKING AIM AT MRS. GANDHI, WHO WAS SEATED IN HER CAR. BATRA CLAIMED THAT HE WAS IN THE CROWD AWAITING MRS. GANDHI'S ARRIVAL, WHEN SOMEONE TRIED TO SEIZE THE BAG IN WHICH HE WAS CARRYING THIS "LICENSED" PISTOL. WHEN HE GRAPPLED WITH THE PERSON TO RETRIEVE THE BAG, BATRA ALLEGES THAT HE WAS SEIZED BY BYSTANDERS.

2. COMMENT: MRS. GANDHI'S SUPPORTERS CAN BE
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EXPECTED TO MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL OUT OF THE INCIDENT, WHILE AT LEAST ONE OF HER OPPONENTS HEALTH MINISTER RAY NARAIN HAS ALREADY ASSERTED THAT THE WHOLE AFFAIR WAS A STUNT. WE SHALL REPORT ANY CLARIFICATION OF THE INCIDENT, AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS, THREATS, PLOTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE00709
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780021-0946
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780163/aaaacayu.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 73a663e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3774495
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED ATTEMPT ON MRS. GANDHI'S LIFE
TAGS: PINT, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/73a663e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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